

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

September 23, 1972

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MEMORANDUM FOR:

25X1

SUBJECT:

Mechanics of Exploratory Talks with
the Egyptian Government

25X1

"It is the U.S. Government's view that the time has come to commence definite planning for the conduct of talks between the designated representatives of the two Governments. The necessary travel associated with these discussions could be either overt or covert in nature. From the U.S. viewpoint, overt travel appears to offer the most advantages if the proper overt pretext can be found to justify the travel. The U.S. side does not favorably view overt or covert travel by Dr. Kissinger to Europe or some other location outside of the United States, because such travel would ultimately involve the arrangements with other governments and possible compromise.

MORI/CDF per C03364223

"On the other hand, the U.S. side is impressed with the advantages of the Egyptian Government's representative traveling overtly to New York with the ostensible purpose of attending the United Nations General Assembly sessions as President Sadat's personal representative. The U.S. side could then discreetly effect contact with the Egyptian representative following his arrival, and arrange a secure venue for the talks. The Egyptian representative's presence in the United States would be plausibly covered, and his visa could be obtained in the normal course under the pretext cited.

"It is recognized that this specific proposal could pose some complications for the Egyptian side; however, it is hoped that

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these complications would be soluble. If, on the other hand, the Egyptian Government would prefer covert travel arrangements, the U.S. side is also amenable to this kind of an arrangement.

"In either event, however, the meetings themselves will of course be strictly secret.

"The U.S. side wishes the Egyptian Government to have the benefit of its initial thinking on this subject and welcomes the Egyptian Government's views on how to proceed with the matter of getting these important talks under way in the near future. The U.S. side also wishes to reemphasize that it is looking forward to its discussions with the Egyptian Government with the view towards achieving progress in arriving at a constructive solution to the situation."

/s/

Henry A. Kissinger

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